

Kathryn Peterson
Administrative Director, Museum of Florida Art
peterson@delandmuseum.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2007

Volunteer Docents Needed for Legendary Florida and Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase

DeLand, Florida--The Museum of Florida Art is looking for volunteer docents to interact with the public in two exciting venues, Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase and *Legendary Florida* collection.

"We are expecting thousands to tour both the Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase and the *Legendary Florida* collection this year. We need informed, enthusiastic docents to help guests get the most out of their visits," said Jewel Dickson, Tour Coordinator.

"Tours of the Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase will only be available to the public for the months of October to December, 2007. "We are expecting tour groups from all over the southeast to take advantage of this rare opportunity and visit the mansion and experience an in-depth look at the art and architecture of this exquisite 1886 home".

Legendary Florida tours at the Historic County Court House in DeLand are available year-round for both school and community groups. This collection of paintings portrays incidents and personalities of Florida history from the fourteenth century into twentieth century American Florida. Tours include historical discussion and group interaction on the 16 works by artist Jackson Walker that depict varied scenarios that make Florida so unique and intriguing.

"People who enjoy the arts, history and architecture of this area will have a richer experience as they share their passion with others as a docent," said Jennifer Coolidge, Executive Director of the Museum of Florida Art. "This is also a great opportunity to learn the reward of volunteerism".

Applying Docents should be interested in Florida history, and able to learn the significance behind the exhibits and share that information with the public.

To become a docent, you must be 18 years of age or older, complete the Museum of Florida Art volunteer application process, and RSVP for and complete the docent training.

For more information, or to receive a volunteer application, please contact the Museum of Florida Art at (386) 734-4371. The Museum of Florida Art is located at 600 N. Woodland Blvd in DeLand, and is open 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00 pm to 4:00 p.m. Sunday.

###

Museum of Florida Art Calendar of Events

On Exhibit:

Jack Mitchell Gallery- *Icons and Idols: A Photographer's Chronicle of the Arts, 1960-1995*

For thirty-five years, Jack Mitchell photographed nearly every major figure in the arts. Mitchell's photographs bridge the gap between subject and viewer. They engage, humanize, and most of all, give the viewer a sense of the warmth, intelligence, passion and beauty of the artists who shaped the cultural landscape of the late twentieth century. Mitchell's exhibit *Icons and Idols: A Photographer's Chronicle of the Arts, 1960-1995* will be on display at the Museum of Florida Art until June 17.

Florida Print Makers Invitational

Opening Reception: June 29 5 – 7 pm/ Exhibit Dates: June 29 – September 2

A range of printmaking techniques including etchings, woodcuts, lithographs, silkscreen, and mixed media will come together for an exhibition of the Florida Print Makers at the Museum of Florida Art this month. Among the contemporary printmaking artists featured at this exhibit are Marilyn Nelson, Mollie Doctrow, Martha Hayden, Alberto Meza, David Mohallatee, Caroline Thorington, Tom Virgin, Helga Kahl, Kip Deeds, Thom O'Connor, Art Werger, David Hunter, Steve Gibson, Andrew DeCaen and Deborah Bryan. Each artist in the exhibit has a distinctive approach to printmaking and imagery. The combination of excellence in technique paired with clarity of artistic vision determined the collection. Some of the works are very detailed and figurative, others non-objective, some quite serious with a formal tone and others have humorous content. Do not miss this opportunity to see the best of printmaking from the Florida Printmakers.

Lauren Austin & Henry Sinn: *Common Threads*

Opening Reception: June 29 5 – 7 pm/ Exhibit Dates: June 29 – September 2

Lauren Austin is a gifted quilter who works with her own hand-dyed, hand-painted fabric to create fabric portraits and fabric memory quilts. Her distinctive quilts evolved from traditional geometric patchwork to fabric portraits of people and situations in African American work and life, as well as political and legal themes. Austin's current works include a series of photo quilts about her father's childhood, folk tales, and International Human Rights.

Henry Sinn is a self-described pack rat. His surreal assemblages are reflective of his imagination, dreams and interest in mystical themes. Henry's work bridges both abstract concepts and recognizable objects.



In addition to the separate displays, the artists will be working together to create a collaborative installation. This piece will reflect their unique talents and background woven together with a common thread.

Summer Art Classes

Mom's Morning Out. 8-week program for mothers and children aged 4 to 5. Registration is \$60 and includes all 8 sessions. The group meets on Saturday mornings from 10 am to noon.

Teen Open Studio with Bryan Carsen. 4-week program for ages 13-19. The \$65 registration includes six evening courses, Thursdays and Tuesdays 6 - 8 pm. The first class will begin on June 14.

Camp Create sessions are filling up fast! If you know of an artistic 6 to 13 year old who would benefit from these theme focused weeks, please encourage them to register today! Each session runs from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. Registration is \$125 per session for members, \$150. for non-members.

Youth Exhibit Receptions will display works from our summer programs. Please help us encourage these budding artists Fridays from 3 to 4pm.

Adult Textile workshop In these workshops, Laura Austin and Henry Sinn's students will learn methods to construct their own fiber art. Bring any letters, family photos, fabric, threads, buttons, ribbons, shells, or jewelry you would like to incorporate into your future heirloom. Knowledge or experience with quilting is NOT necessary! This class has no rules other than to have fun! Two classes are available: July 15 and Aug 19. Each class will run from 9 am to 4 pm. Registration is \$55 per class.

Special Events:

Common Threads Gallery Talk- July 11, 6:30pm

Join us as we discover how two very different artists with different influential backgrounds and artistic approaches use the same media to create their unique works of art. On July 11 at 6:30 pm, Lauren Austin and Henry Sinn will be taking us through their personal artistic styles and backgrounds to discover the meanings behind their fascinating works. For details, please call (386) 734-4371

Arts in Autumn – October 13, 2007- The Museum of Florida Art cordially invites you join us **October 13, 2007** for an enchanted evening under the stars. This year's *Arts in Autumn* will be a Black-Tie Gala at the palatial Stetson Mansion in Deland, Florida. Guest of this charitable event will be the first to enter the home since its 2 million dollar refurbishment and transformation. The grand event will include an array of gourmet hors d'oeuvres, libations, music, period actors, antiques and a silent auction. Tickets \$125. per person. For details, please call (386) 734-4371

Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase- October to December 2007

Tours of the Stetson Mansion Designer Showcase will only be available to the public for the months of October to December 2007. Groups of 10 are invited to call the museum to book a mansion tour and experience an in-depth look at the featured art, refurbished architecture and contemporarily designed rooms that have brought back to life this exquisite 1886 home. For details, please call (386) 734-4371

Museum of Florida Art

600 N. Woodland Blvd

DeLand, FL 32720

Phone: 386.734.4371

www.delandmuseum.com

Museum Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 am-4pm, Sun 1-4 pm

Gallery Admission: Members - Free, Non-Members - \$3.00,
Children under 12 - Free